



School Board Office, District No 40
811 Ontario Street
New Westminister, BC V3m 0J7

604 517 6240
info@sd40.bc.ca
newwestschools.ca

September 28, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians of Grade 4 & 7 Students:

During October and November, the Provincial Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) will be conducted at your child's school. The FSA is an annual, province-wide assessment of foundational skills in reading comprehension, writing and numeracy and provides helpful information to our schools. Further, it provides our school district an important measure to ensure we are both meeting and improving the educational outcomes for our students. The assessment will be administered following the procedures developed by the Ministry of Education. The FSA is aligned with the BC Curriculum and is designed to be integrated into regular classroom learning experiences in grade 4 and grade 7. It includes collaborative class activities to boost student confidence and provides a choice of reading selections and writing themes to allow for the greatest student engagement and success. The FSA is administered in the fall to provide teachers with results earlier in the year. These results will help to guide classroom instruction and support learning for all students.

Individual FSA results will be shared with parents to provide valuable information about your child's learning strengths and areas of growth. For further information, please refer to the Ministry of Education FSA website, which includes full details of all aspects of the assessment and its use, as well as electronic and written tests that can be used for practice.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/program-management/assessment/foundation-skills-assessment>

The Ministry of Education expects all students to participate in the assessment. Students who may require academic or social emotional learning support will be provided with adaptations to allow for success. The FSA results serve as a provincial snapshot and provide information about how students in British Columbia are doing as a whole. Again, at the district and school level, the results are used to monitor trends in student achievement and make plans for the improvement of teaching and learning experiences.

If you have any questions about how the FSA will be conducted and the implications for your child, please contact your school principal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Hachlaf". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Karim Hachlaf
Superintendent of Schools